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THE Be-Hg (BERYLLIUM-MERCURY) SYSTEM

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This paper was prepared for submittal to
Bulletin of Alloy Phase Diagrams

April 18, 1986

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National
Laboratory

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The Be-Hg (Beryllium-Mercury) System

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To date there has been no additional information about the Be-Hg system other than that cited in [Hansen] and [Elliott].

Be seemed to be insoluble in liquid Hg [26Bod, 56Str]. Very limited solubility was observed by [50Kel] as follows:

Temperature, °C	Composition, $\times 10^{-4}$ at.% Be
800	8.9
100	0.22

The melting point of (β Be) and the (β Be) \rightarrow (α Be) allotropic transformation temperature are 1289 ± 4 and 1270 ± 6 °C, respectively [85BAP]. The melting point of Hg is -38.836 °C [Melt].

[57Kel, 58Hol] prepared an amalgam of Be by electrolyzing a NaCl-BeCl₂ fused salt mixture into a Hg cathode. By analogy with the Hg-Mg system, it was speculated that the compound BeHg₂ was formed.

A summary of crystal structure and lattice parameter data is given in Table 1.

Table 1 Be-Hg Crystal Structure and Lattice Parameter Data

Phase	Composition,		Struktur-		Space	Proto-	Lattice		Reference
	at.% Hg	Pearson symbol	bericht designation	group			parameters, nm		
							a	c	
(β Be)....	0	cI2	A2	Im3m	W		0.25515	...	[King2]
(α Be)....	0	hP2	A3	P6 ₃ /mmc	Mg		0.22857	0.35839	[King1]
BeHg ₂	66.7	?	?	?	?		?	?	[57Kel]
(α Hg)....	100	hR1	A10	R $\bar{3}$ m	Hg		0.3005	$\alpha=70.53^\circ$	[King1]

General References

[Hansen]: M. Hansen and K. Anderko, Constitution of Binary Alloys, McGraw-Hill, New York or General Electric Co., Business Growth Services, Schenectady, NY 12345 (1958)

[Elliott]: R.P. Elliott, Constitution of Binary Alloys, First Supplement, McGraw-Hill, New York or General Electric Co., Business Growth Services, Schenectady, NY 12345 (1965)

[Melt]: "Melting Points of the Elements," Bull. Alloy Phase Diagrams, 2(1), 145-146 (1981)

[King1]: H.W. King, "Crystal Structures of the Elements at 25 °C," Bull. Alloy Phase Diagrams, 2(3), 401-402 (1981)

[King2]: H.W. King, "Temperature-Dependent Allotropic Structures of the Elements," Bull. Alloy Phase Diagrams, 3(2), 275-276 (1981)

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- 26Bod: S. Bodforss, "The Electrochemistry of Beryllium," Z. Phys. Chem., 124, 66-82 (1926). (Equi Diagram; Experimental)
- 50Kel: L.R. Kelman, W.D. Wilkinson, and F.L. Yaggee, "Resistance of Materials to attack by Liquid Metals," ANL-4417, 66-67, Argonne national Labotatory, July (1950). (Equi Diagram; Experimental)
- 56Str: J.F. Strachan and N.L. Harris, "The Attack of Unstressed Metals by Liquid Mercury", J. Inst. Met., 85, 17-24 (1956). (Equi Diagram; Experimental)
- 57Kel: M.C. Kells, R.B. Holden, and C.I. Whitman, "The Preparation of Beryllium Amalgam," J. Am. Chem. Soc., 79(14), 3925 (1957). (Equi Diagram; Experimental)
- 58Hol: R.B. Holden, M.C. Kells, and C.I. Whitman, "Continuous Electrolytic Process for the Preparation of Beryllium Metal," Proc. U.N. Intern. Conf. Peaceful Uses At. Energy, 2nd, Geneva, vol. 4, 306-308 (1958). (Equi Diagram; Experimental)
- 85BAP: to be published in Bull. Alloy Phase Diagrams, (1985). (Equi Diagram; Compilation)

Acknowledgments

Be-Hg evaluation contributed by L.E. Tanner, L-217, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, P.O. Box 808, Livermore, CA 94550 and H. Okamoto, B77G, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, CA 94720. Work was supported by the U.S. Department of Energy under contract no. W-7405-Eng-48 and American Society for Metals (ASM). Literature searched through 1984. Part of the bibliographic search was provided by ASM. L.E. Tanner and H. Okamoto are ASM/NBS Data Program Category Editors for binary beryllium alloys.